SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 275 By Clabough

A RESOLUTION To honor and recognize Jonathan Koerten, 2001 Valedictorian of Sevier County High School.

WHEREAS, It is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to pay tribute to those students who through their natural talents and unflagging commitment to academic excellence have distinguished themselves in the classroom; and

WHEREAS, Jonathan Koerten is one such exceptional student who was recently named Valedictorian of the 2001 graduating class at Sevier County High School; and

WHEREAS, Through diligent study, steady composure during examinations, and steadfast commitment of time and talent, Jonathan has achieved outstanding academic success and has joined the ranks of the best and brightest students in Tennessee and our country; and

WHEREAS, Jonathan Koerten has earned numerous honors during his high school career, including the National Math Award, the Pre-Calculus Award, the Biology II Award, and the Microcomputer Systems Award, and recognition in *Who's Who Among American High School Students*; he is also a member of the prestigious National Honor Society and the Beta Club, which he has served astutely as President this year; and

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WHEREAS, A highly involved participant in his school and his community, he has been an active member of Young Life, the varsity soccer and swim teams, the yearbook staff, and the Interact Club, the Art Club, and the Ski Club; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Koerten is a highly respected leader among his peers and has served as a member of the Teen Board and the Citizens National Bank's Student Advisory Board; he was a Delegate to Boys' State, where he held the office of Senior Policy Advisor; and

WHEREAS, A devout Christian, Jonathan is an active member of the First Baptist

Church of Sevierville and has served his Lord through involvement in Vacation Bible School, the

Church Christmas Store, his local Backyard Bible Club, and participation in numerous mission

trips; and

WHEREAS, A devoted humanitarian, he often donates his time and substantial talents to serve as a volunteer with such estimable entities as the local hospital, the CDC class, Trulah Lawson Early Learning Center, and the Regional Special Olympics; and

WHEREAS, Jonathan Koerten's noteworthy achievement is a tremendous source of pride for his parents, James and Karen Koerten, his school, and his community; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Koerten's display of intellectual aptitude and ambition surely bodes well for his future success; and

WHEREAS, His dedication to excellence is clearly deserving of the respect, admiration, and commendation of this legislative body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby commend and honor Jonathan Koerten, 2001 Valedictorian of Sevier County High School, on his impressive academic achievement and extend to him our best wishes for much happiness and every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

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